



REPORT  
OF THE  
COMMISSIONER  
OF THE GÁRDA SÍOCHÁNA  
ON CRIME  
for  
the year ended  
30th. September, 1971.

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## FOREWORD

Minister for Justice.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my report on crime for the year ended the 30th September, 1971.

I have to report that the increase in crime shown last year continued during 1971. The total number of indictable offences reported or known to the Garda Síochána in 1971 was 37,781, the highest figure yet recorded for any year since the establishment of the State. The figure of 37,781 recorded crimes is 7,025 or 23% greater than the figure for 1970. Of this total figure 23,086 crimes were recorded in the Dublin Metropolitan Area, an increase of 4,767 or 26% over the number recorded in 1970. 14,696 crimes were recorded in the rest of the State, which figure is an increase of 2,258, or 18%, over the figure for 1970. Of the total crimes recorded for the whole country in 1971, 61% were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area.

The national crime detection rate for the year 1971 was 46% which is 4% less than that for 1970. It should not be lost sight of, however, that while 16,242 crimes were solved in 1970, 17,518, or 2,276 over and above the figure for 1970, were solved in 1971. The percentage of crimes detected fluctuates greatly from one category of crime to another. For the most serious crimes the percentage solved in 1971 was 90%, while for certain offences against property it was as low as 40%.

Group I crime classification is the most serious crime category, that involving offences against the person. The number of offences of this type recorded in 1971 was 1,256, which is an increase of 114, or 10%, over the figure recorded for 1970. The percentage of crimes solved in this offences group was 90% which is the same as in 1970.

Group II crime classification, offences against property with violence, i.e. burglary, housebreaking, sacrilege, robbery, arson, malicious damage and related offences, shows a total of 10,654 recorded for the year 1971. This is an increase of 1,077, or 11%, over 1970. Of this total of 10,654 recorded crimes 5,689, or 53%, were recorded in the Dublin Metropolitan Area. The percentage of crimes of this offences group solved in 1971 was 51%, as against 55% in 1970.

The number of armed robberies for the year was thirty (30). There were two (2) such crimes for years 1961 and 1961 and seventeen (17) for year 1970. The total of robberies with violence etc. numbered 314 for year under review; 24 and 42 respectively for years 1961 and 1961, and 215 for year 1970. One hundred and forty-nine (149), forty-seven percent (47%), of these crimes for the year 1971 were detected. One hundred and nine (109) of the cases were dealt with summarily in court.

Group III crime classification, offences against property without violence i.e. larceny, embezzlement, false pretences, frauds, etc. shows a total of 24,929 crimes recorded for 1971. This is an increase of 5,372, or 27%, over the figure recorded for 1970. 16,510 or 66% of the total crimes recorded in this offence group were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area. Notable in this offences group were the following increases: 7,436 larcenies from unattended motor vehicles, an increase of 1,817 (32%); 5,613, or 75%, of these larcenies were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area. The figure of 5,613 is an increase of 1,525 (37%), over the 1970 figure for that area; 1,341 larcenies from the person, an increase of 659, (97%); 1,227, or 91%, of these crimes were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area which represents an increase of 628, (105%) over the 1970 figure for that area. The bulk of these latter crimes were committed in shops, at rail and bus stations, bus stops, and other such places throughout the city where there is crowd congestion. Where necessary, Divisional Officers take special measures to combat this type of crime. In the Dublin Metropolitan Area plain clothes Gardai are specially deployed to areas where these crimes are frequent. However, unless the culprit is actually caught in the act, or in hot pursuit, detection proves particularly difficult in this type of crime. In the majority of cases culprits leave no fingerprints or other clues at the scenes, and the victims of these crimes are rarely able to supply useful descriptions of the culprits. The type of property stolen is generally non-identifiable cash.

There were 712 larcenies of motor vehicles which represents an increase of 342, (92%), over the figure for 1970. Five hundred and fifty-four, or 78%, of these crimes were committed in the Dublin Metropolitan Area, an increase of 246, or 80% for that area. The considerable increase in the number of mechanically propelled vehicles registered each year must be considered a significant causative factor in the growth of this type of crime. There is no doubt that greater care on the part of owners in the matter of securing their vehicles when leaving them unattended would do much to reduce the incidence of this type of crime.

There were 2,520 larcenies of pedal cycles, an increase of 175 (7%). Offences of obtaining goods by false pretences totalled 1016 an increase of 489 (92%). The major portion of the increase in this latter category of crime is due mainly to the fraudulent use of cheques, some of irregular manuscript type, which became freely available during the period of the bank strike in 1970. There were 6,839 larcenies of property not exceeding £50 in value recorded for 1971. This is an increase of 856, (15%), in comparison with the figures for 1970.

The overall crime detection rate for this offences group (group III) was 40% in 1971 as against 44% in 1970.

It is important to note that of the total number of indictable crimes recorded for 1971, (37,781) 25,474, or 67%, were offences against property where the value of the property stolen did not exceed £50 in value. The bulk of the thefts from unattended motor vehicles is included in this figure. In this regard the exercise of greater care by motorists in securing their vehicles and the property therein when parking in city areas, especially during the night time, would go a long way in reducing this type of petty theft.

The following circumstances are regarded as having contributed to the increase in crime during the year under review :

1. The commission of further crimes by criminals while on bail awaiting trial. A total of 383 persons while on bail committed 1,570 crimes against property (housebreakings and larcenies) during the crime accounting year ended on the 30th September, 1971. These figures are only in respect of crimes which were solved.
2. The lack of a proper security sense by some members of the general public particularly in relation to property left exposed to view in motor cars parked in cities, towns, and seaside resorts.
3. The growth in urbanisation and industrialisation with increased affluence of sections of the community making available more attractive goods to steal, e.g. colour television sets.
4. Increased mobility of criminals, most of whom make use of motorised vehicles in the course of their activities.

In Ireland, as in other countries, increasing urbanisation is accompanied by a decrease in the percentage of crimes solved. Most serious crimes are nowadays carefully planned. Special precautions are taken to avoid leaving identifiable clues such as fingerprints, tracks or traces at the scene and in the more serious crimes disguises are worn to hamper identification. Though the culprits for a particular crime may be known the procuring of adequate evidence to warrant charging them with such crime is frequently very difficult, as full legal proofs are essential to secure a conviction in our courts.

In thefts from unattended motor vehicles, vacant dwellinghouses, vacant offices, building sites and streets, no description of the culprit is generally available and no clues are to be found at the scene. In addition, many people who are the victims of such thefts are unable to supply identifiable particulars of their stolen property such as numbers of television sets, transistor radios, tape recorders, binoculars, cameras, etc.

During the year under review 99,713 emergency '999' calls were received at the Information Room at Dublin Castle from members of the public. The use of this system resulted in the arrest of 2,200 persons. The increasing use of the '999' emergency call system reflects growing awareness on the part of the general public of the crime menace in our midst, and the efforts of our "Garda Patrol" television programme personnel are proving effective in this regard.

Regarding the steps which are being taken to deal with the growing crime situation each Divisional Officer has introduced special measures designed to combat the particular crime problems of his area. Examples of such measures are as follows :-

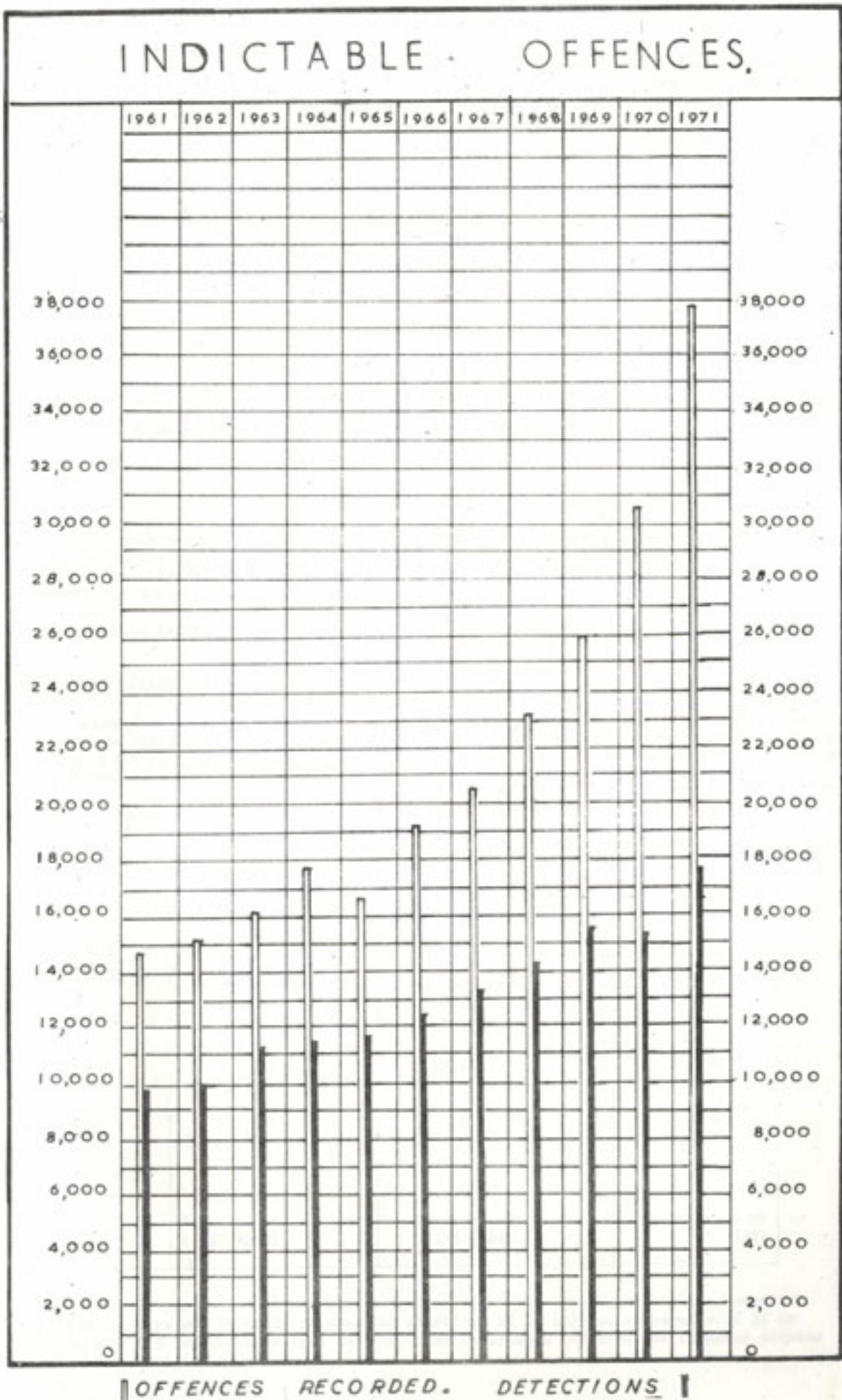
1. The expansion of our crime prevention advice service. Two Sergeants have now been specially trained as Crime Prevention Officers in each Division outside the Dublin Metropolitan Area. The special Crime Prevention Unit at Dublin Castle caters for the Dublin Metropolitan Area.
2. The performance of special crime patrols in vulnerable areas at times of highest incidence of crime.
3. The increased use of 'check points' and 'spot checks' of motor transport.
4. In the Dublin Metropolitan Area a Special Crime Task Force of Gardai and higher ranks has recently been formed for specific tasks in designated areas. It is proving effective although only a short time in operation, and it is proposed to increase the strength to provide greater cover.

Further measures being arranged are the training of more scenes of crime examiners in the use of scientific aids; increases in strengths of Detective Units in cities; increased patrolling by uniform members as soon as increased manpower becomes available; re-organisation of the criminal intelligence services and improved public relations especially in urban areas.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
your obedient servant,



FIG. 1



## PART II.

TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFENCES.

(1) The number of indictable offences which was reported or became known to the Garda Síochána in 1971 was 37,781, as compared with 30,756 in 1970 and 25,921 in 1969. The 1971 total shows an increase of 7,025 on the 1970 total and 11, 809 on the 1969 total.

(2) The following table and the graph in figure 1 show the numbers of indictable offences recorded in the last 10 years.

<u>1962</u>	15,307	-	<u>1967</u>	20,558
<u>1963</u>	16,203	-	<u>1968</u>	23,104
<u>1964</u>	17,700	-	<u>1969</u>	25,972
<u>1965</u>	16,736	-	<u>1970</u>	30,756
<u>1966</u>	19,029	-	<u>1971</u>	37,781

(3) Details of the crimes and information on the result of proceedings are given at part VII statistical table No. 1.

DETECTIONS

(4) Proceedings were instituted in respect of 16,071 offences in 1971. In 1,447 other cases the offenders were detected but for various reasons no proceedings are shown. In most of those cases the offenders were either dealt with under the Juvenile Liaison Scheme or the offences were taken into consideration by the courts in dealing with other charges. The total number of offences detected was, therefore, 17,518 or 46%.

(5) The graph in figure 1 shows the detections in the last eleven years.

INCIDENCE OF CRIME IN GARDA DIVISIONS.

(6) The numbers of indictable offences recorded and detected in each of the 18 Garda divisions into which the State is divided are shown at part VII, table 2. Similar information in respect of the Garda districts in which the cities of Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Galway are included, is also given there.

(7) The following table shows the number of offences recorded in the Dublin Metropolitan Area and the rest of the State in 1970 and 1971 :

Y E A R	INDICTABLE OFFENCES RECORDED.		
	Dublin Metropolitan Area.	Rest of State	Total
1970	18,318 (60%) of total	12,438 (40%) of total	30,756
1971	23,085 (61%) of total	14,696 (39%) of total	37,781
	Increase of 4,767 (26%)	Increase of 2,258 (18%)	Increase of 7,025 (23%)

8. The estimated population of the Dublin Metropolitan Area is 823,500 and the number of indictable offences per thousand persons was therefore 28 in 1971 as compared with 22 in 1970. Outside the Metropolitan Area the number of indictable offences per thousand persons was 7 in 1971 and 6 in 1970.

(9) The increase in number of indictable crimes is accounted for mainly in the Dublin Metropolitan Area where there was an increase of 4,767 crimes. The increase in crime in divisions outside the Metropolitan Area is spread over 15 of the 17 divisions, the highest being Cork E.R. increase of 472 or 18%; Louth/Meath, increase of 292 or 30%; Limerick, increase of 218 or 17%; Kerry, increase of 181 or 32%; Waterford/Kilkenny, increase of 173 or 18%; Leix/Offaly, increase of 159 or 38%; Longford/Westmeath, increase of 159 or 19%; Wexford, increase of 123 or 13%; Mayo, increase of 116 or 47%; Sligo/Leitrim, increase of 91 or 36%; Galway W.R., increase of 89 or 13%; Roscommon/Galway E.R., increase of 66 or 23%; Tipperary, increase of 52 or 9%; Carlow/Kildare, increase of 49 or 7%; and Donegal, increase of 38 or 11%. There was no change in the Division of Cavan/Monaghan: 413 indictable offences were recorded which is the same as the figure for 1970. A decrease of 20, or 6%, was recorded in the division of Cork W.R. There was an overall increase of 2,258 or 18% in country divisions.

#### PRINCIPAL GROUPS OF INDICTABLE OFFENCES

(10) The following table shows the number of indictable offences known to the police in each of the principal groups of offences compared with the corresponding figures for 1970.

OFFENCE GROUP	Number of offences		Increase or decrease in 1971 compared with 1970.		Percentage of Detections	
	1971	1970	1970		1971	1970
			Number	Per Cent		
Offences against the Person	1,256	1,142	+ 114	+ 10	90	90
Offences against property with violence	10,654	9,577	+ 1,077	+ 11	51	55
Offences against property without violence	24,929	19,557	+ 5,372	+ 27	40	44
Other Indictable Offences	942	480	+ 462	+ 96	89	90
Total Indictable Offences.	37,781	30,756	+ 7,025	+ 23	46	50

For offences included in these groups, see part VII. Statistical Table No. 1.

#### OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON.

11. The following table enables a comparison to be made over the past 5 years of the incidence of offences in this category.

YEAR	Number of Offences known to the Gardai.	Number of Offences in which detections were made.	Percentage of Offences in which detections were made
1971	1,256	1,128	90
1970	1,142	1,033	90
1969	1,170	1,091	93
1968	1,151	1,076	93
1967	1,149	1,077	94

Murder, Attempts and threats to murder, Infanticide, Manslaughter, Dangerous Driving causing death or serious bodily harm.

#### MURDER OF PERSONS AGED ABOVE ONE YEAR

12. Nine murders of persons aged above one year were recorded in 1971. Proceedings were instituted in all cases. Brief particulars of the nine cases are given in part VII.

#### INFANTICIDE

13. One murder of an infant was recorded in 1971, brief particulars of which are given in part VII.

#### ATTEMPT TO MURDER

14. Three crimes of attempted murder were recorded in 1971. Brief particulars are given in part VII.

#### THREATS TO MURDER

15. One crime of threatening to murder was recorded in 1971. Brief particulars are included in part VII.

#### MANSLAUGHTER (OTHER THAN TRAFFIC FATALITIES)

16. Four crimes of manslaughter were recorded in 1971. Brief particulars are given in part VII.

#### MANSLAUGHTER (TRAFFIC FATALITIES)

17. Twenty crimes were recorded in 1971.

#### DANGEROUS DRIVING CAUSING DEATH

18. Sixty-five persons were charged with dangerous driving causing death in 1971 as compared with forty-five persons similarly charged in 1970. Out of the sixty-five prosecutions instituted and sixteen cases pending from 1970, 19 convictions were recorded and 17 cases were pending at the end of the year. In the balance of 45 cases, informations were refused or the accused was acquitted.

#### DANGEROUS DRIVING CAUSING SERIOUS BODILY HARM

19. Twenty-four persons were charged with this offence in 1971 as compared with thirty-five persons so charged in 1970. Out of the twenty four prosecutions instituted and 23 cases pending from 1970, 18 convictions were recorded; 9 cases were dismissed, a nolle prosequi was entered in one case, informations were refused in one case, and 18 cases were pending at the end of this year.

#### OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY WITH VIOLENCE

20. Included in this group are offences of burglary, housebreaking and related offences, robbery and malicious damage to property.

21. In this category the number of offences recorded in 1971 was 10,654 as compared with 9,577 in 1970, an increase of 1,077 or 11%. Of the total offences recorded in this classification, 5,689, or 53%, were recorded in the Dublin Metropolitan Area. During 1971, 5,444 crimes were detected representing a detection rate of 51% as compared with 55% in 1970.

22. The following table shows the number of offences recorded in the past 5 years, and the number and percentage of detections in this category in the past 5 years.

YEAR	Number of Offences recorded.	Number of Offences detected	Percentage of offences detected.
1971	10,654	5,444	51
1970	9,577	5,268	55
1969	7,563	5,065	67
1968	6,469	4,440	69
1967	5,575	3,930	71

23. Continuing the trend of recent years, a further increase has been recorded in offences of breaking and entering premises, (including attempts to break into premises and possession of housebreaking implements). There were 9,971 such offences, an increase of 929 or 10 per cent over 1970. Proceedings were instituted in 4,775 cases in 1971 and in a further 334 cases the offenders were detected but no proceedings are shown, giving a total of 5,109 detections or 50%. The percentage in 1970 was 55.

24. The following table shows recorded offences of breaking and entering premises over the past five years.

OFFENCE	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967
Sacrilege	60	71	38	42	32
Burglary	451	425	286	284	263
Housebreaking (Dwellinghouses)	3,641	3,001	2,493	1,967	1,735
Breaking into shops, warehouses, etc.	4,794	4,536	3,534	3,171	2,814
Attempts to break into houses, shops, warehouses, etc.	182	235	188	138	129
Entering with intent to commit felony.	802	725	587	498	365
Possession of housebreaking tools.	41	49	66	63	17
TOTAL	9,971	9,042	7,192	6,163	5,355

#### ROBBERY

25. The increasing trend in crimes of violence was reflected in offences of robbery and assaults with intent to rob which rose during 1971 to 314 cases compared with 215 in 1970, an increase of 46%. In 1969, 147 cases were recorded. Firearms were alleged to have been used during 1971 in 30 cases compared with 17 in 1970 an increase of 76%. In 1969, 12 cases were recorded. Proceedings were instituted in 149 cases during 1971. Convictions were recorded in 115 cases within the year and in a further 5 cases the Probation of Offenders Act was applied. Fifty cases were still pending in the courts. Brief particulars of crimes in which firearms were alleged to have been used are given in part VII.

#### ARSON AND OTHER MALICIOUS INJURY TO PROPERTY

26. Three hundred and sixty-seven offences under this heading were recorded in 1971, of which 151 were offences of arson. In 1970, the total number of offences was 316 of which 132 were offences of arson. Proceedings were instituted in 163 cases in 1971 and in a further 23 cases the offenders were detected but no proceedings are shown.

#### OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY WITHOUT VIOLENCE

27. Included in this group are offences of larceny, embezzlement, obtaining goods, etc., by false pretences, frauds and receiving stolen goods.

28. The number of offences recorded in this classification in 1971 was 24,929 as compared with 19,557 in 1970 an increase of 5,372 or 27%. Of this total 16,510 (66%) were recorded in the Dublin Metropolitan Area. Proceedings were instituted in 9,049 cases in 1971 and in an additional 1,054 cases the offenders were detected but no proceedings are shown. The total of detections therefore was 10,103 or 40% compared with 44% in 1970. Convictions were recorded in 5,768 cases in 1971 and in a further 2,063 cases the Probation of Offenders Act was applied. One thousand five hundred and seventy cases were pending at the end of the year.

29. The following table shows the number of offences recorded in this group over the last five years.

YEAR	Number of Offences Recorded	Number of Offences Detected
1971	24,929	10,103 (40%)
1970	19,557	8,511 (44%)
1969	16,764	9,301 (55%)
1968	15,091	8,346 (55%)
1967	13,452	7,854 (58%)

30. The following table enables a comparison to be made over the past 5 years of larcenies recorded.

OFFENCES	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967
Larceny of horses, cattle and sheep	77	61	103	49	28
Larceny from the person	1,341	682	457	338	285
Larceny in house to value of £5 or with menaces	603	570	555	590	560
Larceny from dwellinghouse by employees.	94	56	103	94	74
Larceny of explosives	4	5	1		1
Larceny of motor vehicles	712	370	289	155	174
Larceny of pedal cycles	2,520	2,345	2,410	2,469	1,936
Larceny from unattended vehicles	7,436	5,619	3,766	2,877	2,760
Larceny from shops and stalls	2,595	2,230	2,125	2,060	1,949
Other larcenies (exceeding £50 in value)	1,221	849	588	543	295
Other larcenies (not exceeding £50 in value)	6,639	5,783	5,080	4,718	4,419
TOTALS	23,242	18,570	15,477	13,893	12,481

#### EMBEZZLEMENT

31. Eighty-five offences of embezzlement were recorded in 1971 compared with 44 offences in 1970. Proceedings were instituted in 81 cases and in one additional case the offender was detected but no proceedings are shown.

#### OBTAINING GOODS, ETC. BY FALSE PRETENCES

32. One thousand and sixteen (1,016) cases under this heading were recorded in 1971 compared with 527 in 1970. Proceedings were instituted in 889 cases and in an additional 21 cases the offenders were detected but no proceedings are shown.

FRAUDS

33. One hundred and fifty-two frauds were recorded in 1971 compared with 56 in 1970. Proceedings were instituted in 136 cases and in a further 6 cases the offenders were detected but no proceedings are shown.

RECEIVING STOLEN GOODS

34. Four hundred and thirty-four offences under this heading were recorded in 1971 compared with 360 in 1970. Proceedings were instituted in 400 cases and in a further 34 cases the offenders were detected but no proceedings are shown.

OTHER INDICTABLE OFFENCES

35. Included in this group are offences of forgery and uttering, perjury, riot and unlawful assembly, offences against public decency, attempting to commit suicide and other indictable offences not included in Groups I, II, or III.

36. The total of offences recorded in the group in 1971 was 942 of which 848 were offences of forgery and uttering. In 1970 the number of offences was 480 of which 396 were offences of forgery and uttering. The 1971 total shows an increase of 462 or 96% on the 1970 total.

37. ORGANISED CRIMES OF VIOLENCE

During the year a number of bank raids were carried out in the country particulars of which are included in part VII.

VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN AND RECOVERED

38. The total value of property stolen in 1971 was £1,520,594 compared with £1,299,182 in 1970. The value of property recovered in 1971 was £223,861 compared with £295,041 in 1970.

39. In offences against property with violence, (i.e. housebreakings), the value of property reported stolen in 1971 was £692,320 of which property valued £114,220 was recovered. In 1970 the value of property stolen was £743,849 of which property valued £166,211 was recovered.

40. In offences against property without violence, (i.e. larcenies), the value of property stolen in 1971 was £828,274 of which property valued £109,641 was recovered. In 1970 the value of property stolen was £555,333 of which property valued £128,830 was recovered. Statistical table 1, Part VII sets out groups of property values in each crime group classification of offences against property.

AGE GROUPS OF PERSONS FOUND GUILTY OF INDICTABLE OFFENCES

41. The following table shows the age groups of persons found guilty of indictable offences, including persons against whom the charges were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act applied in the years 1967 to 1971, inclusive.

YEAR	Under 14 years	14 to 17 years	17 to 21 years	Over 21 years	TOTAL
1971	724	2,027	3,059	5,386	11,196
1970	811	2,060	2,873	4,462	10,206
1969	901	2,141	3,065	4,443	10,550
1968	879	1,743	2,461	4,281	9,364
1967	1,023	1,912	2,460	4,126	9,521

## PART III.

JUVENILE CRIME (UNDER 17 YEARS)

A total of 2,751 juveniles were found guilty of indictable offences in 1971, including juveniles against whom the charges were held proved and the Probation of Offenders Act applied. The number in 1970 was 2,871.

PERCENTAGE OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS IN RELATION TO OTHER PERSONS CONVICTED OF INDICTABLE OFFENCES:

Juvenile offenders in 1971 formed 24% of the total persons convicted of indictable offences. The percentage in 1970 was almost 28%.

The number of juvenile offenders and the percentage of the total persons convicted of indictable offences in the years 1965 to 1971 is shown in the following table :

YEAR	Number of Juveniles convicted for Indictable Offences.	Percentage of total number of persons convicted of Indictable Offences.
1965	2,945	35
1966	3,168	34
1967	2,935	31
1968	2,622	28
1969	3,042	29
1970	2,871	28
1971	2,751	24

In addition to juveniles charged with indictable offences in 1971, a number were cautioned, with the consent of the Law Officers, for the commission of offences of a minor nature.

JUVENILE LIAISON OFFICER SCHEME

The Juvenile Liaison Officer Scheme was adopted in the Dublin Metropolitan Area on 3rd September, 1963, and on the measures of success achieved over a trial period, the Scheme was extended to include the cities of Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Galway also Clonmel, Drogheda, Dundalk, Sligo, Tralee, Wexford and Kilkenny.

The principle of the Scheme is that Juvenile Liaison Officers, i.e. members of the Garda Síochána specially chosen and trained for this work, are empowered to deal with children and young persons who become involved in certain forms of crime, (housebreakings, larcenies, etc.), without resorting to court proceedings, subject to the following guiding principles :

That the offender:

1. Is under the age of seventeen years.
2. Has committed a minor offence of stealing, including breaking and entering premises.
3. Admits the offence.
4. Has not previously come under the notice of the Gardai, and
  - (1) the parents or guardians agree to co-operate with the Gardai by accepting help and advice concerning the subjects future, and
  - (2) the injured party does not object to the offender being cautioned rather than prosecuted.

Generally it is the policy to caution rather than prosecute a juvenile who is known to be a first offender and who comes within the foregoing conditions. Account is taken of the full circumstances of each individual case, e.g. degree of temptation and any aggravating or ameliorating factors.

Juveniles dealt with under the Scheme are divided broadly into two classes :-

- (1) Children or young persons who have contravened the criminal law,
- and
- (2) Potential delinquents.



11.  
PART IV.

NON-INDICTABLE OFFENCES

GENERAL REVIEW

The number of persons prosecuted for non-indictable offences in 1971 was 198,157 compared with 169,581 in 1970. Details are given at Part VII statistical table number 3. Of the total number of offenders proceeded against, 172,668 were dealt with for offences under the Road Traffic Acts.

The following table shows the number of persons prosecuted and the numbers convicted for non-indictable offences in each of the years 1967 to 1971, inclusive.

YEAR	Number Prosecuted	Number Convicted	Percentage of Convictions.
1971	198,157	152,381	77
1970	169,581	125,153	74
1969	178,186	130,506	73
1968	173,592	128,886	74
1967	164,068	124,283	76

PRINCIPAL OFFENCES

The following table shows the numbers of prosecutions for the offences which made up the bulk of the total in the years 1970 and 1971 and shows increases and decreases under each heading.

OFFENCES	No. of persons prosecuted		Increase + Decrease -
	1970	1971	
Highway Acts (Road Acts, Road Transport Acts, and Road Traffic Acts).	146,404	172,668	+ 26,264
Intoxicating Liquor Laws.	7,208	8,284	+ 1,076
Assaults	2,911	3,517	+ 606
School Attendance Act.	1,671	1,561	- 110
Unlicensed Dogs	1,780	1,322	- 458
Malicious Damage	1,444	1,709	+ 265

Part VII Statistical table number 5 shows the number of persons prosecuted for various traffic offences over the past five years.

FINES ON THE SPOT

The system of "fines on the spot" under Section 103 of the Road Traffic Act, 1961, was introduced in the Dublin Metropolitan Area on 1st April, 1963, and extended to the cities of Cork, Limerick, and Galway on 1st May, 1965, Waterford on 1st July, 1967, Tralee on 3rd May, 1971 and Killarney on 1st September, 1971.

Details of offences and proceedings in the years 1970 and 1971 are given in Part VII Statistical table number 6.

DRINK AND DRIVING

Proceedings were taken under this heading in 2,134 cases, 859 more than in 1970. Specific charges related to driving or attempting to drive or being in charges of a motor vehicle when unfit to drive through drink or drugs or, (since 3rd November, 1969), for driving etc. with a blood-alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit. The lower figure in 1970 was due mainly to the fact that there were administrative difficulties in that year in relation to the taking of blood/urine samples and in consequence of this the enforcement of these provisions had to be left in abeyance for a time. There were 1,586 convictions during the year 1971. There were 78 prosecutions for driving or attempting to drive a pedal cycle while drunk resulting in 69 convictions.

In all, 2,054 persons were required to take a breath test during the year. There were 46 prosecutions for refusing breath tests resulting in 25 convictions and 59 prosecutions for refusing blood/urine specimens resulting in 37 convictions.

The result of breath tests, blood/urine tests, etc. is given in part VII statistical table number 4. The law relating to breath tests is contained in section 28 of the Road Traffic Act, 1968, which enacts that whenever a member of the Garda Síochána is of opinion that a person in charge of a mechanically propelled vehicle in a public place has consumed intoxicating liquor he may require him to take a breath test.

INTOXICATING LIQUOR ACTS

The following table shows the number of persons prosecuted for various offences under the Intoxicating Liquor Acts in each of the years 1967 to 1971 inclusive.

OFFENCES	NUMBER OF PERSONS PROSECUTED				
	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967
Being on licensed premises during prohibited hours.	3,926	3,435	3,446	3,314	2,786
Offences by licensed persons (or their servants) against closing regulations	673	640	628	636	583
Other offences by licensed persons (or their servants)	79	40	61	77	43
Offences in connections with registered clubs.	26	15	22	25	16
Drunkenness - simple	1,394	1,206	1,436	1,775	1,779
Drunkenness with aggravation	1,945	1,647	1,697	1,777	1,750
Other offences	241	225	231	340	142

## PART V.

DANGEROUS DRUGS ACTSDRUG SQUAD

This squad was formed in 1968 with a strength of 1 Detective Sergeant and 3 Detective Gardaí. The present strength of the squad is 1 Detective Sergeant, 5 Detective Gardaí and 1 Ban Garda. A trained Labrador dog is used by the squad for the purpose of locating concealed drugs. The drug squad is based at Dublin Castle and is available for preventive and detective duties in relation to dangerous drugs in any part of the country. The members of the drug squad have received special training in relation to their duties. They work in close liaison with the Central Detective Unit and Special Divisional Units throughout the country. They also liaise with other police forces and Interpol in relation to international drug traffic. The fullest co-operation with other interested agencies is maintained in efforts to suppress illegal drug trafficking. During the year under review a policy of selecting members from each Garda division to undergo a short attachment course on duties in relation to drug offences with the drug squad at Dublin Castle was implemented. To date 3 members have completed this course. It is expected that by the end of the next year 2 members from each division will have completed the course.

DANGEROUS DRUGS ACTS AND REGULATIONS

During the year 113 persons were charged under the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1934, and the Health Act, 1970. Of this number 87 were charged with offences in the Dublin Metropolitan Area, 3 with offences committed in Drogheda, 18 with offences committed in Sligo, (during a pop festival which was attended by three members of the Drug Squad), one with an offence committed in Arklow, 1 with an offence committed in Ballina, 1 with an offence committed in Cork City and 2 with offences committed in Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare (during a pop festival which was attended by two members of the Drug Squad). Specific charges related to: Unlawful possession of drugs, 91 persons charged; unlawful possession and supplying drugs, 4 persons charged; unlawful possession and larceny of drugs, 1 person charged, unlawful possession and procuring dangerous drugs, 3 persons charged; supplying dangerous drugs, 3 persons charged; supplying and conspiring to supply dangerous drugs, 2 persons charged; procuring dangerous drugs, 6 persons charged; housebreaking and larceny of drugs, 3 persons charged. It will be noted from the foregoing that in all 9 persons were charged with the offence of unlawfully supplying dangerous drugs; these are persons who in popular parlance are referred to as "pushers". The drugs concerned in these charges were:

70 persons charged with offences relating to Cannabis.

10	"	"	"	"	"	"	LSD
9	"	"	"	"	"	"	Dipipanone. (Diconal)
6	"	"	"	"	"	"	Morphine.
1	"	"	with an offence	"	"	"	Methadone (Physeptone).
1	"	"	"	"	"	"	Barbiturates (Nembutal)
10	"	"	with offences	"	"	"	Cannabis and LSD
1	"	"	with an offence	"	"	"	Cannabis & Amphetamines.
1	"	"	"	"	"	"	Cannabis & Dipipanone.

1 person charged with an offence relating to Cannabis and Opium.

3 persons charged with housebreaking and larcenies - assorted drugs involved.

The nationalities of the persons charged were :-

Republic of Ireland	-	93
Great Britain and the Six Counties	-	12
U.S.A.	-	6

PART VI.

SUMMARY OF CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITY DURING THE YEAR 1971.

The Crime Prevention Unit in Dublin Metropolitan Area consists of one Detective Inspector, 3 Sergeants and 2 Gardai who are whole time employed on crime prevention duties.

There are 33 Sergeants employed part-time carrying out crime prevention duties in their respective Divisions throughout the country.

SURVEYS OF PREMISES

The surveying of premises still remains one of the most important of the many tasks carried out by the Unit and much of the Crime Prevention Officer's time is given to this. A total of 231 premises were surveyed during the year in the Dublin Metropolitan Area. The reduction of work in this line from previous years was compensated for by major group surveys involving Dock areas, Banks, Supermarkets, Industrial Estates and other commercial groups.

TALKS SERVICE

This service to the public continues to hold favour. The number of talks to groups amounted to 70, the majority being to Residents' Associations and Ladies' Clubs, Management Groups and supervisors concerned with various aspects of commercial security.

PUBLICITY

Many opportunities were availed of towards creating a desired public interest in crime prevention through daily papers, trade magazines and also through radio and television. An excellent relationship exists with those media, and their co-operation, which was readily forthcoming, is much appreciated. The "Garda Patrol" programme was continued on a once-weekly basis and has again proven to be of great allround assistance in prevention, detection and circulation of general crime information. Here, our grateful thanks must again be sincerely extended to the Authorities and Staff of Radio Telefis Eireann for their ready and unstinted co-operation in presenting the Programme.

EXHIBITIONS

Despite its situation and location our permanent Crime Prevention Exhibition Room in 'F' Block, Ship Street, Dublin, continues to attract in numbers people with crime prevention problems. We are thankful to the many manufacturers and agents of appliances and devices who have given security equipment on loan to this exhibition.

During the year crime prevention exhibitions were mounted at the R.D.S. Spring Show and Horse Show, also at the Agricultural Shows in Cork, Limerick, Ennis, Mullingar, Tralee and Virginia.

GENERAL

The variety and extent of effective 'crime prevention' gear on the market indicates an increasing public interest in crime prevention implementations. There was an increase in installations with the consequent increase in the number of detections, although at times the false alarm ratio was a bit disconcerting and resulted in some waste of Garda man hours.

LOOKING AHEAD

It is envisaged that the demands made on the crime prevention service will expand during the coming year due to the shorter working week in industry which causes many business and factory premises to be closed for longer periods. Unfortunately also, in some new buildings the security aspect appears to receive little attention. The present mobility and daring of criminals also places greater strain on the crime prevention services of An Garda.

Nevertheless, with increased public awareness of security needs and greater acceptance by business people of crime prevention advice it is confidently expected that our crime prevention service will prove effective in reducing the opportunities to commit crime.

COMMUNICATIONS

During the year, 99,713 emergency '999' calls were received at the Information Room, Dublin Castle, from members of the public. The use of the system resulted in the arrest of 2,220 persons. In 1970, the number of '999' emergency calls was 81,763 and resulted in the arrest of 1,743 persons.

GARDA RADIO SERVICE

Further expansion of the Radio Service took place during the year with particular attention to Border Areas. Base stations were fitted to 29 extra stations. Car radios were issued to 22 additional areas.

The following extra equipment was delivered during the year under review and it is at present in use: -

85 base stations	150 car sets
72 motor cycle sets	170 personal sets.

THE GARDA DOG SERVICE

The Garda Dog Unit, established in 1960, consists of 1 Sergeant and 4 Garda handlers, operating 5 trained Alsatian dogs. It is based in the Dublin Metropolitan Area and during 1971 played a useful role in the prevention and detection of crime. Dog teams are available for duty on a 24 hour basis in any part of the country.

Numerous calls were made for the services of the Unit in searching premises, tracing missing persons, tracing the routes of fleeing criminals, searching areas for offenders, stolen property and like activities.

During the year members of the Unit made 98 arrests. Eighty-one summonses were issued arising out of detections made by the Unit while on duty with their dogs.

In addition to routine calls dealt with in the Metropolitan Area the Unit was engaged at the following centres:

1. Search at Glasnevin cemetery following illegal explosion at O'Connell Monument.
2. Search at Kells, Co. Meath, in connection with alleged kidnapping of child.
3. Search at R.T.E. transmitter at Kippure following armed hold-up.

During the year, one (1) replacement dog was trained for the Unit under the supervision of the Sergeant in charge.

SUB-AQUA UNIT

The Garda Sub-Aqua Unit was established on an official basis in September, 1966, under the general control and supervision of the Inspector i/c. Transport, Dublin Castle and the direct control of the Sergeant member. The purpose of the unit is to carry out underwater searches for :

- (a) Weapons used in the commission of crime, or other evidence of crime deposited under water ;
- (b) bodies of victims of crime or drowning accidents.

During the year the unit took part in 21 searches for victims of drowning accidents.

The unit was also engaged during the year in underwater searches as follows :

For clues in a crime of rape.  
 Search for a gun used in an alleged attempted murder.  
 Search of river Liffey for a stolen car.  
 Search of the river Tolka for a firearm.

A total of 26 full scale operations were undertaken during the year.

PART VIISTATISTICAL TABLESSTATISTICS OF CRIME, 1971TABLE 1

The number and nature of the indictable offences which became known to the police in 1971; the number of offences in which proceedings were instituted and the results of such proceedings.

TABLE 2

The number of indictable offences, by groups; reported by each Garda division, and by the Garda Districts of the cities Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Galway and the number and percentage of detections.

TABLE 3

The number of persons proceeded against for non-indictable offences, the nature of the offences and the result of proceedings.

TABLE 4

Drink and Driving - Statistics of blood tests, Blood/Urine tests, arrests, etc.

TABLE 5

Numbers of persons prosecuted for various traffic offences.

TABLE 6

Fines-on-the-spot. Details of offences and proceedings, etc.





## INDICTABLE OFFENCES

TABLE SHOWING BY GROUPS, IN RESPECT OF EACH GARDA DIVISION AND THE GARDA DISTRICTS OF THE CITIES OF CORK, LIMERICK, WATERFORD AND GALWAY, THE NUMBER OF INDICTABLE OFFENCES AND THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF DETECTIONS FOR YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1971.

DIVISION	(Group I) Offences against the person.		(Group II) Offences against property with violence		(Group III) Offences against property without violence		(Group IV) Other indictable offences		Total Indictable Offences	Number of Detections	Percentage of Detections
	Recorded	Detected	Recorded	Detected	Recorded	Detected	Recorded	Detected			
Carlow/Kildare	48	48	236	125	441	330	16	15	741	518	70
Cavan/Monaghan	29	29	116	55	246	172	22	16	413	272	66
Cork E.R.	166	160	1,047	510	1,787	1,261	61	57	3,061	1,988	65
Cork W.R.	25	24	115	61	146	116	5	4	291	205	70
Dublin Metropolitan Area	410	338	5,689	3,000	16,510	4,609	476	439	23,085	8,386	36
Donegal	28	25	136	60	197	120	12	12	373	217	58
Galway W.R.	49	45	262	96	437	207	32	19	780	367	47
Kerry	40	38	257	146	430	225	16	14	743	423	57
Leix/Offaly	42	37	155	68	354	263	25	23	576	391	68
Limerick	87	75	541	313	843	660	65	63	1,536	1,111	72
Longford/Westmeath	54	50	308	88	609	255	19	17	990	410	41
Louth/Meath	82	76	501	293	646	388	35	25	1,264	782	74
Mayo	36	36	86	47	212	161	25	23	359	267	74
Roscommon/Galway E.R.	23	21	107	64	201	140	15	14	346	239	69
Sligo/Leitrim	21	20	125	78	194	121	5	5	345	224	65
Tipperary	31	28	211	111	350	235	31	26	623	400	64
Waterford/Kilkenny	23	19	437	168	643	400	56	49	1,159	636	55
Wexford	62	59	325	161	683	440	26	22	1,096	682	62
TOTALS (Whole Country)	1,256	1,128	10,654	5,444	24,929	10,103	942	843	37,781	17,518	46
TOTALS (Excluding Dublin Metropolitan Area.)	846	790	4,965	2,444	8,419	5,492	466	404	14,696	9,132	62
DISTRICTS											
Cork	106	101	783	412	1,351	939	33	33	2,273	1,485	65
Limerick	45	40	317	209	518	431	41	41	921	721	78
Galway	12	11	148	59	274	102	23	11	457	183	40
Waterford	9	9	227	76	351	213	38	34	625	332	53

TABLE 3

NON-INDICTABLE OFFENCES - PERSONS DEALT WITH SUMMARILY-PROCEEDINGS AND RESULTS IN YEAR 1971.

OFFENCES	No. of persons proceeded against.	Charge withdrawn or dismissed	Number Convicted	Charge proved and order made without Conviction.	Adjourned sine die or otherwise disposed of.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
1. Adulteration of Food, Drugs, etc .....					
2. Assaults .....	3,517	466	2,467	285	299
3. Cruelty to Animals .....	71	7	58	2	4
4. Dogs, Offences in relation to Licensing of (Finance Act, 1925) .....	1,322	151	999	161	11
5. School Attendance Act, 1926, Offences against .....	1,561	93	1,118	302	48
6. Traffic Act, Offences against :-					
(a) Lighting Regulations-Pedal Cycles (i) No front lamp .....	1,762	93	1,483	159	27
" " " (ii) No rear lamp .....	1,366	67	1,167	118	14
" " " (iii) No reflector .....	644	32	538	71	3
(b) " " - M.P.V. ....	16,202	756	13,411	1,891	144
(c) " " - Animal-drawn vehicles .....	233	3	212	17	1
(d) Licences - Driving .....	12,163	1,213	9,122	1,666	162
(e) Obstruction .....	3,514	228	2,915	339	32
(f) Dangerous Parking .....	405	37	364	19	5
(g) Road Traffic General Bye-Laws, 1964 .....	3,557	438	2,564	525	30
(h) Local Bye-Laws .....	53,832	8,473	40,053	5,224	82
(i) Dangerous and Careless Driving .....	6,785	1,023	5,212	368	182
(j) Compulsory Insurance .....	12,013	2,153	8,328	1,267	265
(k) Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V. while drunk ..	1,943	379	1,443	-	121
(l) Being in charge of M.P.V. while drunk .....	191	46	143	-	2
(m) Driving or attempting to drive or being in charge of Animal-drawn vehicle while drunk .....	18	3	15	-	-
(n) Driving or attempting to drive pedal cycle while drunk .....	78	7	69	1	1
(o) Exceeding speed limit - (i) Built-up Area .....	12,738	478	11,276	850	134
" " (ii) Special .....	1,252	40	1,127	80	5
" " (iii) Ordinary .....	237	3	224	5	-
" " (iv) General .....	363	5	535	15	8
(p) Driving dangerously, defective M.P.V. ....	645	95	493	53	4
(q) Other Offences .....	4,213	431	2,896	698	188
(r) Unauthorised taking of M.P.Vs. ....	1,625	124	1,215	225	61
(s) Construction Equipment and Use of Vehicles Regulations 1963 :-					
" " (i) Defective tyres .....	5,371	260	4,687	362	62
" " (ii) " steering .....	157	15	132	8	2
" " (iii) " brakes .....	1,374	100	1,123	137	14
" " (iv) Other Offences .....	4,566	454	3,441	575	96
7. Road Transport Acts .....	183	22	135	23	3
8. Roads Act and Finance Acts - Excise Licence .....	25,043	2,654	18,521	3,449	419
9. Intoxicating Liquor Laws, Offences against :-					
(a) Illegally on Licensed Premises during closing hours ..	3,926	381	3,446	21	78
(b) Drunkenness, Simple .....	1,394	78	1,110	200	6
(c) Drunkenness with aggravation .....	1,945	102	1,621	157	65
(d) Offences by Licensed Persons (or their Servants) against closing Regulations .....	673	107	548	4	14
(e) Other Offences by Licensed Persons (or their Servants) ..	79	22	49	4	4
(f) Other Offences against Intoxicating Liquor Laws ..	241	40	185	13	3
(g) Offences in connection with Registered Clubs .....	26	-	21	4	1
10. Labour Laws, offences against .....	1	-	-	1	-
11. Malicious Damage to Animals, Fences, etc .....	1,709	171	1,265	157	116
12. Nuisance Acts, 1936 - Offences against .....	3	-	2	-	1
13. Police Regulations, Offences against :-					
(a) Dublin Metropolitan Police Acts .....	890	89	624	166	11
(b) Summary Jurisdiction (Ireland) Act, 1851 .....	532	62	378	91	1
14. Revenue Laws, Offences against .....	171	18	133	14	6
15. Stealing, Receiving or possessing Stolen Property (not the subject of larceny at Common Law) .....	59	6	43	10	-
16. Street Trading Act, 1926 - Offences against .....	1,041	10	882	149	-
17. Unlawful possession .....					
18. Vagrancy Acts - Offences against :-					
(a) Begging .....	386	39	301	39	7
(b) Other Offences .....	1,361	190	922	237	12
19. Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1926 - Offences against .....	359	12	328	5	14
20. Other Offences .....	4,222	587	3,057	428	150
TOTAL :	198,157	22,263	152,381	20,595	2,918

TABLE 4

TRAFFIC OFFENCES - DRINK & DRIVING. ANNUAL STATISTICS OF  
BREATH TESTS, BLOOD/URINE TESTS, ARRESTS, ETC.

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>
1. <u>BREATH TESTS</u>		
(a) Total number of persons breath tested.	229	2,054
(b) Breath test positive	115	1,136
(c) Breath test negative	114	918
(d) Breath test refused.	4	62
2. <u>BLOOD/URINE TESTS</u>		
(a) Blood specimen given	88	1,038
(b) Urine specimen given	13	147
(c) Specimens refused	3	65
3. <u>ARRESTS</u>		
(a) For refusing breath tests. (Sec. 28 (3) R.T.A., 1968).	4	62
(b) Arrest without breath test. (Sects. 49.50, R.T.A. 1961).	1,160	1,180
TOTAL ARRESTS	1,164	1,242
4. <u>ANALYSIS OF SPECIMENS</u>		
(a) Under 125 milligrams	14	68
(b) Over 125 milligrams	87	1,105
(c) Specimen still to be analysed at end of year	-	-
(d) Insufficient or spoiled, etc.	-	12
TOTAL ANALYSES, ETC.,	101	1,185

T A B L E 4

DRINK AND DRIVING - PERSONS DEALT WITH SUMMARILY -  
PROCEEDINGS AND RESULTS IN YEAR 1971

OFFENCES	No. of persons proceeded against.	Charge withdrawn or dismissed.	Number convicted	Charge proved and order made without conviction	Adjourned Sine Die or otherwise disposed of.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V. while drunk. Sec. 49 R.T.A., 1961.	1,033	281	696	-	56
Being in charge of M.P.V. while drunk. Sec. 50 R.T.A., 1961.	147	41	104	-	2
Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V. Blood/Alcohol concentration above prescribed limit. Sec. 49 R.T.A., 1961, as amended by R.T.A. 1968.	910	98	747	-	65
Being in charge of M.P.V., Blood/Alcohol concentration above prescribed limit. Sec. 49 R.T.A., 1961 as amended by R.T.A. 1968	44	5	39	-	-
Refusing to provide preliminary specimen of breath	46	11	25	5	5
Refusing to provide or permit taking of blood/urine specimen at Garda Stations	59	14	37	4	4

TABLE 4

NON-INDICTABLE OFFENCES  
 TRAFFIC OFFENCES - DRINK & DRIVING  
SEX AND AGE OF PERSONS FOUND GUILTY

OFFENCE 1.	TOTAL 2.	17 and under 21. 3.		21 and over 4.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
		Driving or attempting to drive M.P.V. while drunk with a blood alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit.	1,443	50	1
Being in charge of M.P.V. while drunk or with a blood alcohol concentration above the prescribed limit.	143	6	-	137	-
Refusing to provide, or permit taking of, blood/urine specimen at Garda Stations.	37	1	-	36	-
Refusing to provide preliminary specimen of breath.	25	2	-	23	-

TABLE 5

OFFENCES	No. of persons prosecuted.	
	1971	1970
<u>LIGHTING OFFENCES</u> - Pedal Cycles	3,772	5,073
" " - M.P.Vs.	16,202	16,248
" " - horse-drawn vehicles	233	148
Obstruction	3,514	3,359
General Bye-Laws for control of traffic.	3,557	7,211
Local Bye-Laws.	53,832	39,049
Dangerous and careless driving.	6,785	6,154
Compulsory Insurance Offences.	12,013	8,849
Licences - Driving	12,163	10,305
Dangerous parking.	405	459
Driving dangerously defective M.P.V.	645	371
Unauthorised taking of M.P.Vs.	1,625	1,459
<u>EXCEEDING SPEED LIMIT</u>		
1. Built-up area	12,738	9,008
2. Special	1,252	1,188
3. Ordinary	232	417
4. General	563	165

TABLE 6

NOTICES ISSUED UNDER SECTION 103, ROAD TRAFFIC ACT, 1961.

## FINES-ON-THE-SPOT

(a) DUBLIN METROPOLITAN AREA(b) CORK, LIMERICK, WATERFORD, GALWAY, TRALEE AND KILLARNEY

FINE NOTICES ISSUED AND RESULT.	Y E A R	
	1971	1970
Number of fine notices issued	<u>Gardai</u> : 22,300 <u>Wardens</u> : 192,118 <u>TOTAL</u> 214,418	<u>Gardai</u> : 23,355 <u>Wardens</u> : 152,587 <u>TOTAL</u> 175,942
Number of fines paid	102,472	97,838
Number of cases which went to Court.	46,874	38,077
Number of notices cancelled.	12,367	3,110
Other causes for cancellation (viz: statute barred, drivers untraced, Summonses not served, drivers outside jurisdiction).	38,103	27,788
Spoiled notices	1,970	1,819
Number of cases pending court proceedings.	12,632	7,310

Fine notices issued and result.	Cork		Limerick		Waterford		Galway		Tralee		Killarney	
	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970
Number of fine notices issued.	24,782	25,205	3,582	4,576	1,064	1,476	2,032	1,850	580	-	221	-
Number of fines paid.	14,662	16,272	2,656	3,581	828	1,128	1,316	1,182	499	-	145	-
Number of cases taken to court.	916	1,423	187	145	54	33	245	48	14	-	10	-
Number of fine notices cancelled.	2,452	1,761	399	458	45	12	471	620	67	-	66	-
Number of cases pending court proceedings.	6,752	5,749	340	392	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of notices still subject of enquiry.	-	-	-	-	137	292	-	-	-	-	-	-

MURDER, INFANTICIDE, ATTEMPTS TO MURDER, THREATS,  
ETC. TO MURDER AND MANSLAUGHTER

PARTICULARS OF CASES

MURDER - (of persons aged above one year) - 9 cases

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN AREA

1. On 5th June, 1971, a 37 years old man received a fatal stab wound when he was involved in a fight with another man on the roadway outside his home. The incident is alleged to be the outcome of a row which had taken place in a public house earlier that evening. The assailant, aged 20 years, is alleged to have followed the deceased to his home and resumed the fight in the course of which he stabbed the deceased in the stomach with a butcher's knife. A man was arrested and charged with murder. He is awaiting trial.
2. On 5th July, 1971, a female patient in a Mental Home is alleged to have attacked another female patient and strangled her with a scarf. The assailant was charged with murder. The accused was found to be unfit to plead and was ordered to be detained in the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum.

CO. KILDARE

3. On 17th April, 1971, a 24 years old motor car salesman was pronounced dead on admission to Naas County Hospital. Death was due to profuse internal haemorrhage as a result of a bullet wound in the heart. The weapon used was a .22 rifle. The tragedy is alleged to be the outcome of a shooting incident in a licensed premises following a dispute concerning the renting of a caravan. A 35 years old labourer was arrested and charged with murder. At the Central Criminal Court the accused was convicted of murder and sentenced to penal servitude for life. An appeal against the conviction has been lodged and is pending.
4. On 23rd April, 1971, a 34 years old housewife is alleged to have fatally stabbed her 33 years old husband in the chest with a carving knife. The tragedy is alleged to be the outcome of prolonged domestic trouble. The woman was arrested and charged with murder. She is awaiting trial.

CO. CORK

5. On 13th June, 1971, the dead body of a 27 years old farmer was found in a field near his home. The body bore severe head and facial injuries. A postmortem examination revealed that death was due to skull fractures and brain laceration caused by a blow from a heavy instrument. The 31 years old brother of the deceased was arrested and charged with murder. The tragedy is alleged to be the outcome of a row between the two brothers in the course of which the accused allegedly struck the deceased a number of blows on the head and face with an iron bar. The accused is alleged to have suffered from a mental illness. He is awaiting trial.
6. On 17th February, 1971, a 58 years old labourer called to a neighbour's house and while there it is alleged he was fatally stabbed by the neighbour who had a long mental history. A man was arrested and charged with murder. He is awaiting trial.

CO. LIMERICK

7. On 3rd April, 1971, the dead body of a 26 years old female was found in a laneway off the Dock Road, Limerick. The body bore marks of injury. A postmortem examination revealed that death was due to asphyxia the result of the obstruction of the airway by compression of the neck with a hand or forearm. A 36 years old electrician was arrested and charged with murder. He is awaiting trial.
8. On 14th August, 1971, 25 years old man died as a result of injuries received when he was involved in a fight with another man. The assailant, aged 25 years, in the course of the fight allegedly struck the deceased in the throat with a broken milk bottle severing the arteries in the front of the neck including the jugular vein. A man was arrested and charged with murder. He is awaiting trial.

CO. WEXFORD

9. On 9th November, 1970, the dead body of a 9 years old girl was found in a field a short distance from her home. The body bore marks of injury to the head and throat. A postmortem examination revealed that death was due to asphyxia. A 56 years old civil bill officer was arrested and charged with murder. Prior to his arrest he was found with injuries to his throat which are alleged to have been self inflicted. At the Central Criminal Court the accused was convicted of murder and sentenced to penal servitude for life. An appeal against the conviction and sentence has been lodged and is pending.

NOTE: The position with regard to disposal of cases as given was that obtaining at the end of the year under review.

INFANTICIDE - 1 CaseCO. MAYO

On 7th February, 1971, an 11 months old male child was admitted to the County Hospital, Castlebar, suffering from severe head injuries which subsequently proved fatal. A postmortem examination of the body revealed that death was due to brain injury and haemorrhage inside the skull resulting from a violent impact which caused an extensive skull fracture. The mother of the child was arrested and charged with murder. At the Central Criminal Court the accused pleaded 'not guilty' to murder but 'guilty' to infanticide. Her plea was accepted and she was convicted on that charge and sentenced to imprisonment for two years, the sentence not to be enforced if she complied with certain conditions imposed by the Court.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER - 3 CasesDUBLIN METROPOLITAN AREA

1. On 19th March, 1971, a 62 years old farm hand received injuries to his shoulder and face caused by a gunshot discharged at him while he was working in a hay barn. The weapon used was a shotgun. An 18 years old farm hand was arrested and charged with attempted murder. At Dublin Central Criminal Court the accused was found not guilty of the charge of attempted murder.

CO. LIMERICK

2. On 10th August, 1971, a 50 years old man was wounded by a gunshot. The weapon used was a shotgun. A man, aged 36 years, was arrested and charged with attempted murder. The shooting is alleged to be the outcome of a dispute between the two parties. The accused was awaiting trial at the end of the year under review.

CO. ROSCOMMON

3. On 19th June, 1971, a 40 years old housewife alleged that she was attacked by her husband who tried to stab her and in self defence she sustained deep cuts on her fingers. The husband is alleged to have threatened to kill her. He is now in England and a warrant for his arrest will issue when his address there is known.

THREATS, CONSPIRACY OR INCITEMENT TO MURDER - 1 CaseCO. OFFALY.

On 16th December, 1970, a company chairman received a letter through the post threatening to shoot tradesmen doing contract work at his factory if the work was not given to local tradesmen. No person has yet been made amenable for this offence.

MANSLAUGHTER (OTHER THAN TRAFFIC FATALITIES) - 4 CasesDUBLIN METROPOLITAN AREA

1. On 15th July, 1971, the dead body of an eight years old boy was found in a lane at North Road, Finglas. A postmortem examination of the body revealed that death was due to manual strangulation. A 15 years old boy was arrested and charged with murder. At the Central Criminal Court the accused pleaded not guilty to murder but guilty to manslaughter. His plea was accepted and the charge against him was adjourned to 2nd June, 1972. The court directed that the accused reside at the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum, as a voluntary patient pending sentence.

CO. MONAGHAN

2. On 5th March, 1971, the dead body of a 63 years old farmer was found in the kitchen of his home. The body bore numerous marks of injury and the room showed signs of a struggle. A postmortem examination of the body revealed that death was due to shock and cardiac failure following multiple fractures of the chest. A 48 years old farmer, a neighbour of the deceased, was arrested and charged with murder. At the Central Criminal Court the accused pleaded not guilty to the charge of murder. He was found guilty of manslaughter but insane and ordered to be committed to the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum.

CO. LIMERICK

3. On the 28th November, 1970, a 32 years old seaman died as a result of stab wounds in the abdomen allegedly inflicted by his 30 years old brother during the course of an argument in their home. At Dublin Central Criminal Court the accused pleaded not guilty to the charge of murder but guilty of manslaughter. His plea was accepted. He was convicted on the latter charge and sentenced to five years penal servitude, the sentence being suspended on his entering into a bond to keep the peace and be of good behaviour for three years.

CO. GALWAY

4. On 24th April, 1971, the dead body of a 25 years old seaman was found on the beach of Salthill. The body bore serious head wounds and numerous superficial abrasions and bruises. A postmortem examination revealed that death was due to drowning. A 19 years old Post Office labourer was arrested and charged with murder. The tragedy is alleged to be the outcome of a quarrel between the accused and the deceased and the latter lay unconscious on the beach after the head injuries had been inflicted and drowned when the incoming tide reached him. At the Central Criminal Court the accused was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to imprisonment for 6 years. An application for leave to appeal against the sentence has been lodged.

ROBBERYROBBERIES WITH FIREARMS AND OTHER SERIOUS ROBBERIESDUBLIN METROPOLITAN AREA

1. On 4th January, 1971, a man entered a drapery premises during business hours; he produced a gun, (later identified as a .32 revolver), and demanded money from the proprietor. He was handed a sum of £40.00 in cash and left the premises after pushing the proprietor into a back room. A man was subsequently arrested and charged with this crime. At Dublin District court the defendant was convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to three months imprisonment.
2. On 2nd February, 1971, three men entered a sub-post office during business hours; two of the men were allegedly armed with revolvers and all three were wearing scarves over their faces. A fourth man remained in the driving seat of a car parked outside the premises. The intruders subdued the staff and customers at gunpoint and took the contents of the safe amounting to £1,435.00 and made their getaway in the waiting motor car. No person has yet been made amenable for the robbery.
3. On 26th March, 1971, two men entered a Life Assurance Office during business hours. One of the men was allegedly carrying a firearm described as a double barrel sawn-off shotgun. While the man with the gun held the staff subdued his accomplice stole £150.00 in cash from the safe. The culprits made their getaway in a car parked outside the premises. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.
4. On 3rd April, 1971, a man entered a radio and television dealer's premises during business hours. The intruder allegedly threatened the assistant with a gun and stole the sum of £7.00 from the cash register. The culprit made his escape on foot. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.
5. On 9th April, 1971, the director of a window cleaning firm opened his office door in response to a knock and was confronted by a man armed with a double barrel shot-gun and wearing a nylon stocking over his face. A struggle ensued in the course of which the director was knocked to the ground and received injuries to his head. The culprit made his escape in a motor car driven by an accomplice. Two men were subsequently arrested and charged with this robbery. At Dublin Circuit Criminal Court one of the accused was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment; informations were refused at District Court level in the case of the other defendant.
6. On the 1st May, 1971, two men entered a Firearms Dealer's premises during business hours. One of the men was allegedly carrying a firearm, described as either a Colt Automatic or an FN Pistol. The intruders ordered the proprietor into a back room where they tied his hands and feet. They then stole 28 firearms, which included rifles, shotguns, air pistols and revolvers, and approximately 1,100 rounds of ammunition of various calibres and made their escape in a car parked near the premises. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery. Value of property stolen was £240.
7. On the 28th May, 1971, three men drove on to a building site during business hours. Two of the men, one of whom was allegedly armed with a single barrel shotgun, entered the site office. The man with the gun threatened the office staff while his accomplice assaulted the clerk of works and took the keys of his car which was parked outside the office. The car contained wage packets amounting to £368.85 cash. The culprits escaped from the scene taking the wage packets with them. Three men were subsequently arrested and charged with this robbery. At Dublin Circuit Criminal Court one of the accused was convicted and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment. At the end of the year under review a second accused was still before the courts and the third accused had absconded while on bail and recognizances had been estreated in his case.
8. On 31st July, 1971, six men, one of whom was disguised as a woman, and at least three of whom were allegedly carrying firearms, entered the premises of a dairy company and subdued the employees at gunpoint. The raiders opened drawers in the cashier's office and stole cash amounting to £15,776.40 and cheques to the value of £568.39. The raiders made their getaway in two cars parked near the main entrance of the premises but were pursued by two employees in another car. One of the raiders fired three shots which struck the headlamps of the pursuing vehicle. The raiders eventually eluded their pursuers by driving through stop traffic lights at a road junction. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.
9. On 5th August, 1971, four men wearing nylon stockings over their heads and faces entered an off-licence premises during business hours. One of the men was allegedly carrying a firearm, believed to be a revolver. The staff were ordered to lie on the floor while the intruders stole £100.00 in cash from the safe. The raiders succeeded in making their escape from the premises. A man was subsequently arrested and charged in connection with this robbery. The case is still before the courts. No other person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.

10. On 5th September, 1971, a group of between five and eight men entered a protection post at a television transmitting station. The men were armed with shotguns and rifles and wore battle-type clothing and nylon masks over their faces. The raiders overpowered the military guard who were on duty at the post and stole a quantity of firearms and ammunition. They also damaged a number of telephones. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.
11. On 17th September, 1971, a man wearing a cloth mask over his face and allegedly carrying a revolver entered a dry cleaners premises during business hours. The intruder pointed the firearm at the shop assistant and demanded money. A customer who was on the premises struck the intruder who fled from the shop. He was pursued by Gardai and apprehended. At Dublin District Court the Defendant was convicted of this offence and sentenced to imprisonment for 9 months.

CO. CORK

12. On 6th January, 1971, 4 masked men, one of whom was armed with a shotgun, entered a dwellinghouse by opening a closed but unlocked door and demanded money from the occupant. The intruders ransacked the house and found £20 in cash which they took. Four men of the itinerant class were arrested and charged with this robbery. At Cork Circuit Court one of the accused was found 'not guilty' and discharged. Two of the other accused were convicted on the charge of armed robbery and sentenced to 9 years imprisonment each. The fourth accused failed to appear to stand trial. He was subsequently apprehended and at the Central Criminal Court was sentenced to four years penal servitude. Appeals were lodged against convictions and sentences but these had not been dealt with up to the end of the year under review.
13. On 20th August, 1971, three masked and armed men entered a Supermarket and at gunpoint forced the manager to hand over the keys of the strongroom. The raiders opened the strongroom and took the contents amounting to £1,000. The opening of the strongroom door activated the alarm system at Union Quay Garda Station. The raiders fled from the scene but were pursued and captured by Gardai. In the course of the pursuit a shot was fired by one of the raiders at one of the Gardai. At Cork Circuit Court one of the accused was convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to four years penal servitude. At the Court of Criminal Appeal the sentence was reduced to 3 years penal servitude. At Dublin Central Criminal Court the other two accused were convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to 6 years penal servitude each. These sentences were suspended by the Court on the accused entering into recognizances, to keep the peace for a period of 5 years.
14. On 16th September, 1971, an armed robbery took place at a branch of the Munster & Leinster Bank, Dunmanway, and the sum of £4,462 was stolen. Involved in the robbery were 4/5 armed and masked men. As the raiders were making their getaway in a stolen car which they had parked outside the bank they fired a shot at a Garda who pursued them in his private car. The Garda was not injured. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.

CO. CAVAN

15. On 3rd August, 1971, a member of the committee of a local carnival was held up by two men, one of them allegedly armed with a shotgun and the other with a wooden club, as he alighted from his car outside his home. The men threatened to shoot the committee member unless he handed over the takings from the carnival for that night. They stole a hold-all bag containing £65 from the boot of the car and made off in a motor car. No person has been made amenable for this robbery to date.

CO. DONEGAL

16. On 24th October, 1970, a County Donegal Railway 'bus travelling between Raphoe and Lifford was held up by 3 armed men and two mail bags were taken from the vehicle. The bags contained £1,647 in cash, registered and ordinary mail. In the course of the robbery one of the raiders discharged a shot through the roof of the 'bus over the driver's head. The raiders made their getaway in a car parked near the scene. No person has been made amenable for this crime to date.
17. On 8th March, 1971, three men, one of whom was armed with a revolver, entered a Sub-Post Office and stole the sum of £48.39 from the post mistress. The raiders succeeded in making their getaway from the premises. A man was later arrested and charged with this robbery. At Letterkenny Circuit Court the accused was convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to imprisonment for 18 months.
18. On 21st July, 1971, simultaneous armed robberies were carried out at branches of the Royal Bank of Ireland and the Hibernian Bank Ltd., which are situated on opposite sides of the street at Buncrana. Two armed and masked men entered the Royal Bank and stole the sum of £1,284 in cash after forcing the staff at gunpoint to lie on the ground. No person has been made amenable for this crime to date.

19. The Hibernian Bank was also entered by two armed and masked men who forced the staff at gunpoint to lie on the floor and stole the sum of £1,746 in cash. When the raiders left the bank they were joined by the two raiders from the Royal Bank and all four culprits then made their getaway in a stolen car parked near the scene. No person has been made amenable for this crime to date.
20. On 27th September, 1971, during the early hours of the morning, three masked men, one of whom was allegedly armed with a rifle, entered a public house through an open ground floor window. They awakened the occupants of the premises and held them up at gunpoint while they ransacked the bedrooms and disconnected the telephone. The raiders stole cash and jewellery value £605 and made their getaway in the injured party's car which they subsequently abandoned. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.

CO. OFFALY

21. On 15th May, 1971, three armed and masked men entered the premises of a registered firearms dealer and at gunpoint ordered the proprietor to hand over the keys of the showcase where he had firearms on display. The raiders opened the showcase and removed 16 firearms of various models and 12,000 rounds of ammunition to the value of £581. Before leaving the premises the raiders tied and gagged the proprietor. A man was subsequently arrested and charged with this robbery. At the Central Criminal Court the accused was convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to 6 years penal servitude. No other person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.

CO. LONGFORD

22. On 19th August, 1971, three armed and masked men entered the Ulster Bank at Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford and at gunpoint subdued the bank staff and stole the sum of £3,014. The raiders made their getaway in a stolen car parked outside the bank premises with a fourth masked man seated behind the steering wheel. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.

CO. KILDARE

23. On 30th August, 1971, three armed and masked men entered the Ulster Bank at Kilcock, Co. Kildare, during business hours. One of the raiders jumped on to the counter and at gunpoint ordered the bank staff to line up facing the wall while one other of the raiders collected cash and notes from the safe. The raiders then left the bank taking with them the sum of £2,901 and joined a fourth armed and masked man who was standing guard on the roadway outside the bank premises and made their getaway in a car in which a fifth masked man was seated behind the steering wheel. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.

CO. MEATH

24. On 3rd September, 1971, four armed and masked men entered the premises of a furniture manufacturer while the staff were making up wages. The raiders ordered the staff not to move and disconnected the telephones in the premises. The raiders left the premises taking with them the sum of £969 in cash and made their getaway in a stolen motor car. No person has been made amenable for this robbery to date.

CO. LOUTH

25. On 29th July, 1971, 2 armed men called to a dwellinghouse and demanded from the occupier a .303 Lee Enfield rifle which he had in his possession under licence. The men left taking the rifle with them. Before leaving they warned the injured party not to report the matter. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery. Value of property stolen was £20.
26. On 21st August, 1971, three armed and masked men entered a grocery and fancy goods shop during business hours and at gunpoint ordered the staff to lie on the floor. The raiders stole £50 in cash from the cash register and made their getaway in a car driven by a fourth man. Four men were later arrested and charged with this robbery. At Dundalk Circuit Court one of the accused was convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to 2 years imprisonment. The remaining three accused were convicted of being accessories after the fact; 2 of them were sentenced to 52 days imprisonment and the third to 6 months imprisonment.
27. On 30th August, 1971, 2 masked men, one of whom was allegedly armed with a revolver, entered an all-night Petrol Filling Station where one male attendant was on duty. The raiders stole the sum of £49 from the cash register and made off in a motor car. No person has been made amenable for this crime to date.

28. On 8th September, 1971, three men drove into a railway station. The driver remained in the car while his two accomplices, each wearing dark glasses and allegedly armed with revolvers, entered the booking office and at gunpoint subdued the clerical staff in the office. The raiders stole £2,700 in cash and left the scene. The car used in the robbery was subsequently found abandoned; it had been stolen in Co. Armagh. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.
29. On 24th September, 1971, the Managing Director of a printing firm was attacked by two men and robbed of a brief case containing personal papers. The culprits ran towards the entrance gate of the premises and were pursued by the injured party. One of the culprits allegedly produced a revolver before getting into a car waiting at the entrance gates. One of two men already in the car also allegedly produced a firearm and pointed it at the Managing Director. The four culprits then drove away from the scene and have not been apprehended to date. The stolen brief case and contents were later found on the roadside and returned to the owner.

CO. WICKLOW

30. On 30th September, 1971, the Royal Bank of Ireland Ltd., Greystones, was raided by five armed and masked men and the sum of £3,070 stolen. No person has yet been made amenable for this robbery.